

Town of Hampton



*Department of Resources and
Economic Development*



**Hampton Beach Area Commission
100 Winnacunnet Road
Hampton, New Hampshire 03842
Selectmen's Meeting Room – Town Hall
Monthly Meeting – October 22, 2015
7:00 PM**

MINUTES

In Attendance:

John Nyhan, Chairman, Town of Hampton Representative
Fran McMahon, Rockingham Planning Commission
Bob Preston, Hampton Chamber of Commerce
Bill Watson, Vice Chairman-NH Department of Transportation
Chuck Rage, Hampton Beach Village District
Rick Griffin, Town of Hampton Representative
Dean Merrill, Citizen at Large
Rich Reniere, Hampton Beach Village District

Excused: Michael Housman, Operations Supervisor, DRED (Seacoast Parks/Recreation)

Absent: 0

Other: Jason Bachand, Town Planner
Three students from SNHU as observers for a class project.
Hampton Union News Reporter
Anne Marchand, Secretary

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Introduction of Commissioners.

Public Comments related to Agenda Items: Charlie Preston spoke to the Rising Tide Summit which is being held in Hampton on Saturday and Sunday. Mr. Griffin reported this Summit is for elected officials only and there are no more openings. Mr. Nyhan said that he is hopeful Senator Stiles will be attending an HBAC meeting in the near future to report on the meeting.

Appointments. No appointments this evening.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES.

MOTION: It was moved by Mr. Griffin to approve the Minutes of the September 24, 2015 Meeting, as edited.

SECOND: Mr. Rage

VOTE: 8 in Favor, 0 Opposed, 1 Excused

MOTION PASSED

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT.

1. Initial discussion on the 2017 NH Capital Budget Request – South Beach State Parking

Mr. Nyhan said there is a meeting on Wednesday, the 28th at 4:00 pm in the State Park Office at the beach to discuss the above budget request. Further, if going after capital budget money, will have to take a good look at the big picture. There will be discussion regarding this specific area. All Commissioners are encouraged to attend.

2. State Park's Fall Meeting – October 27th – 5:00 pm.

Mr. Nyhan reported that this semi-annual meeting will be to discuss the park operations, how the summer went, and concerns and recommendation will be welcomed. Topics will include landscaping, maintenance, etc. The meeting is open and the Park's staff will be listening to other public officials. The meeting will be held in the function room behind the Seashell stage.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Mr. Nyhan for Mr. Housman

The balance as of this evening is **\$15,849**. A payment was made to the Town of Hampton in the amount of \$610 for secretarial services.

MOTION: It was Moved by Mr. Preston, Seconded by Mr. Merrill, and Voted 8 in favor 0 opposed to approve the Treasurer's report as submitted.

MOTION PASSED

OLD BUSINESS:

1. HBAC/HPD Traffic Flow Pilot Project results

Mr Nyhan reported that HBAC submitted their request for the Grant match and, this evening, need to accept the in-kind donation from the HPD.

MOTION: Mr. Rage Moved to accept the in kind donation from the HPD toward the HBAC Transportation Grant in the amount of \$4308.75

SECOND: Mr Griffin

VOTE: 8 in favor, 0 opposed.

MOTION PASSED

2. Update: Transportation Grant recent meeting.

a. Additional Public Comments. Mr. Nyhan distributed a revised chart, showing Commissioners' and Staff time spent from 1/1/15 through 9/20/15. He said this in-kind tracking is necessary and must be approved by Mr. Rose, Project Manager. He is hopeful Federal Highway will accept the hourly rates.

MOTION: It was moved by Mr. Preston to submit the report presented this evening for the period of 1/1/15 to 9/30/15 to Mr Rose.

SECOND: Mr. Reniere

VOTE: 8 in favor, 0 opposed

MOTION PASSED

b. Meeting Request – HBAC/NHDOT/Hampton Public Safety and Works update presentation.

Mr. Nyhan stated that he is hopeful Mr. Leedy, VHB, will take the comments received from the public into consideration when reviewing the discussion held at the Public Meeting on October 13, 2015. He also said that Ed McDonald, who spoke at the last meeting, sent additional comments for review. He provided the comments to the Commissioners. He also said that Conservation Chairman, Jay Diener, asked to have his comments included although he was unable to attend the public meeting. Those written comments were also provided to the Commissioners.

Mr. Nyhan stated that one thing that came out of the meeting was there has not been a fair representation from public safety and that will be a next step before the next public hearing. He anticipates a special meeting with the Town Manager, Fire Chief, and Police Chief. Mr. Watson noted his agreement. There will be a Special Meeting planned during November which will include participation by the DPW, Fire and Police Departments and Town Manager. This meeting will include a review of what has taken place and what VHB has developed. Date to be forthcoming.

c. Project Scope Expansion Request. Mr. Griffin spoke to expanding the scope of the project from Boar's Head up to Winnacunnet Road. He explained the impact areas that have to be addressed such as sidewalks. Mr. Rose is working on doing an expanded scope which will be shared and, if the HBAC agrees, Mr. Leedy (VHB) will be consulted as to whether this can be added into the present contract. If not, a Change Order will be proposed. Mr. Nyhan applauded Mr. Griffin for his comments and the importance of the project expansion. Mr Griffin also noted that people come to the beach via Winnacunnet Road. With the bad drainage on that end of Ocean Boulevard, people cannot use the sidewalks.

d. Next Steps – Mr. Watson.

Mr. Watson said that one must understand in what direction the HBAC is heading in DOT's perspective and what we can expect in terms of study and when it will be completed. Further, he stated that Mr. Leedy and Mr. Rose will sift through public comments received, determine whether there is enough comment, and concur that HBAC has done their best to reach out to all. The two public meetings were important, but another meeting with Town staff is critical given they should have the opportunity to speak. Also, the infrastructure affects all with relation to the connection of State and Town Roads. He reiterated that local staff input is critical.

He commented that all this information is going into a funnel as to whether the VHB presentation will be accepted. The project is not close in the level of detail, and commented on questions such as whether Ashworth is feasible for two way traffic or not. There are many questions that need answers. VHB is trying to sort through information and this will take a few months to get through the process. They will then come back with meetings dealing with interactions through FaceBook, personal interactions, and other opportunities. There may be some areas in which VHB will come to the HBAC and ask us to focus on those areas. They will then give their professional opinion and see what can be moved forward. The next few months they will be churning through their information and input and will come back with more concrete ideas and alternatives.

Mr. Nyhan stated that once it has been decided in which direction we are going, that information will then be put in as an amendment to the original Master Plan based on the HBAC's vote. At that point, it will be the responsibility of the HBAC to look at implementing changes, if any, and moving away from the 2002 transportation recommendations which have been determined not to work in today's world. The Commission's responsibility is to accept the final recommendations with input and changes, and will then be incorporated into the Master Plan, which will then have to go before local and state authorities for sign-off. Local and state authority approval is necessary in order to amend the Master Plan.

Mr. Nyhan also noted that if the majority, for example, thinks Ashworth Ave should be two-way, then that would be incorporated into the Master Plan. The Commission has to take this job seriously and it is important to look whether or not there are other options. There is still time to get more information and input. We must think of different ways to look at traffic control, and whether there are other things missing.

Mr Griffin stated that, with regard to the area from Boar's Head to Winnacunnet Road, the Town's Selectmen have discussed this and they would like to see this included in the plan. Mr. Griffin also stated there has been a lot of positive thinking about some of the possible changes. People are responding to the idea of parking on the ocean side of Ocean Boulevard without having to cross Ocean Boulevard. The public, he said, is becoming more engaged and most likely more people will attend public meetings in the future. There is, however, a need to have more publicity for the public meetings.

Mr. Rage stated he is amazed to realize how many people are thinking these plans will happen in the next year. He noted we are looking more towards 2018 and further into the future. There is a lot of discussion and planning still needs to be done.

Mr. Reinere commented that he remembers the Beach when it was "green" with lots of trees and yards. He noted that having trees is positive. He also agreed there is a lot more discussion needed.

Mr. Nyhan pointed out that when it comes to the point for a final vote, it may not be 9 to 0 and one must be cognizant of the fact that not everyone may be pleased with the outcome.

NEW BUSINESS.

1. Site review request (Highland & Ocean Boulevard)

Attorney Steve Ells and the Zoning Board of Adjustment has asked a committee from the HBAC take part in the site review of Highland and Ocean Boulevard. Mr. Nyhan, Mr. Rage, and Mr. Preston will meet with Attorney Ells and review the plans and will report back to the HBAC.

2. Fall commission appointments.

Town of Hampton Representative – John Nyhan – three year term to October 2018.

The Board of Selectmen at their meeting of October 19, 2015, reappointed Mr. Nyhan to the HBAC for a three-year term to expire in October 2018.

Hampton Beach Village District – Robert Ladd – three year term to October 2018

The Hampton Beach Village District appointed Robert Ladd to the HBAC for a three year term to expire in October of 2018.

Commissioner at Large – Dean Merrill - one year term to October 2016

On Motion of Mr. Preston, Seconded by Mr. Griffin, the Hampton Beach Area Commission voted 8 in favor, 0 Opposed, 1 excused to appoint Dean Merrill as Commissioner at Large for a period of one year to expire October, 2016.

MOTION PASSES

3. Other New Business

Mr. Watson reported that NHDOT has brought in a new Commissioner. Ms. Sheehan has been appointed and sworn in and, following his first meeting with the Commissioner, he said she has been very busy touring New Hampshire. Further, Senator Stiles has been in contact with her about Ocean Boulevard and the bridge, and Mr. Watson feels that Ms. Sheehan's skills will be valuable to NHDOT and the State. This is a positive decision for NHDOT, he commented. He stated it is important that Ms. Sheehan spend time with different groups and other organizations and to make her aware that public officials are willing to work with NHDOT.

Mr. Nyhan stated he is working on putting recommendations together for the 10-year Transportation Plan and is hoping to have good news for Hampton before Christmas, with regard to Ocean Boulevard construction funding requests.

Mr. Reinere commented that it has been a pleasure working with the HBAC, he is not going to fall into the woodwork and has a deeper insight as to the responsibilities of the HBAC. He said it has been a pleasure to work with the Commission and thanks one and all.

Mr. Nyhan thanked Mr. Reinere for his time and efforts on behalf of the Commission. He commented that people don't realize the amount of time that is needed and he appreciates Mr. Reinere's time. He said the door is always open for comments as future input will be valuable.

Thank you to the three students from SNHU for attending the meeting

ADJOURNMENT. It was moved by Mr. McMahon, seconded by Mr. Merrill, and voted 8 in favor, 0 opposed to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

MOTION PASSED

***** The next meeting of the HBAC will be held on Thursday, November 19, 2015**

**Respectfully Submitted:
Anne Marchand, Secretary**

Thank you Channel 22

